

**MINUTES OF THE
AUBURN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
March 20, 2012**

The regular session of the Auburn City Planning Commission was called to order on March 20, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Spokely in the Council Chambers, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Snyder, Worthington, Young & Spokely

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Vitas

STAFF PRESENT: Will Wong, Community Development Director
Reg Murray, Senior Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLIGIENCE

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 20, 2010
November 2, 2010
March 6, 2012

Approved as presented.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

V. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

- A. VARIANCE – 100 TEA LANE (AT&T WIRELESS) – File VA 12-01.** The applicant requests a Variance to allow a height variance for a 12' extension to an existing PG&E tower at 100 Tea Lane. A new 12' lattice tower extension will replace an existing 6' tall lattice extension and will accommodate three (3) new LTE antennas as well as six (6) existing wireless antennas that will be relocated from the existing lattice extension.

Planner Murray presented the project and discussed the Variance request, which is an extension of an 8 foot antenna that was approved in 2005. The variance would allow the existing 8 foot structure to be taken down and a 12 foot antenna would be installed.

Commissioner Worthington asked why the 8 foot antenna is not sufficient?

Planner Murray deferred the question to the applicant.

Chairman Spokely opened the public hearing.

Karen Clark representing AT&T Wireless addressed the commission and discussed the project and PUC and FCC requirements. Ms. Clark stated she agreed to all of the conditions of approval as presented.

Chairman Spokely closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Young made a motion to adopt the resolution and actions as presented.

Commissioner Worthington **SECONDED** the motion.

AYES:	Snyder, Worthington, Young & Spokely
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Vitas

The motion was **APPROVED**.

VI. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Sign Ordinance Update

Director Wong presented the Sign Ordinance update.

Commissioner Snyder questioned what specifically staff is asking the Commission to review tonight and what public notice was conducted?

Director Wong noted that he is looking for initial direction from the Commission and additional workshops will be conducted.

Director Wong noted that pursuant to the schedule, staff will be notifying the business community of the discussion at the Planning Commission.

Director Wong replied that staff wanted to discuss the 3 main types of signs that are proposed to be changed with the ordinance such as Banners, Monument Freestanding Signs and Under Canopy Signs. A discussion of Wall and Window Signs may also be discussed.

Commissioner Worthington noted that she would like to address neon window signs in the Old Town and Downtown Districts.

Director Wong asked for clarification on neon window signs in Downtown vs. Old town.

Commissioner Worthington noted that neon is appropriate for Downtown but does not seem to be appropriate in Old Town.

Director Wong noted that neon signs will be added to the list of potential changes for the next workshop.

Commissioner Worthington asked about requirements for Billboards.

Director Wong replied that the existing regulations are for off-site signs.

Director Wong discussed banner signs and proposed options for consideration. Banners are temporary signs used primarily for grand openings. Director Wong noted that some cities allow banners for a specific duration during the year with limited number of days.

Director Wong noted that staff will be conducting a sign inventory of all types of signs in the community.

Commission Spokely asked about amortization and how that will be implemented.

Director Wong noted that with an amortization schedule, signs will be phased out over a period of time.

The Planning Commission had a general discussion of various signage types and compared signs in other cities.

Director Wong discussed the sign ordinance schedule and again noted that several future workshops will be held at the Planning Commission and notice to the business organizations will continue throughout the process.

VII. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

A. City Council Meetings
None

B. Future Planning Commission Meetings
Director Wong noted that there will be a meeting on April 17, 2012

C. Reports
None

VIII. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORTS

The purpose of these reports is to provide a forum for Planning Commissioners to bring forth their own ideas to the Commission. No decisions are to be made on these issues. If a Commissioner would like formal action on any of these discussed items, it will be placed on a future Commission agenda.

None

IX. FUTURE PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS

Planning Commissioners will discuss and agree on items and/or projects to be placed on future Commission agendas for the purpose of updating the Commission on the progress of items and/or projects.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance E. Lowe